



Illinois Waste Management and Research Center

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Governor's Awards

Sustainable Tech Award

GLRPPR

PNEAC

State Environmental Awards Programs

Introduction

Many states use awards programs as an incentive to reward companies who adopt pollution prevention (P2) strategies. In 1981, North Carolina began the first pollution prevention awards program, calling it the Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste Reduction. The Illinois Hazardous Waste Research and Information Center (now the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center) began giving **Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards** in 1987 and has the oldest continuing program.

Some other interesting facts about environmental awards programs:

- 30 states currently have awards programs specifically recognizing P2. Some of these programs have a P2 award within a larger environmental awards program.
- 6 states have some kind of environmental awards/recognition program but don't recognize P2 as a specific category.
- 3 states had awards programs but discontinued them (Ohio, Pennsylvania, Arizona).
- 16 states have no environmental awards program.
- Of the states that have awards programs, 22 are called the Governor's awards.
- Of these, at least 8 actively involve the governor's office, usually by having the governor present the awards. In all of these, the state environmental agency is still heavily involved.
- There are several national and regional awards programs in the United States and Canada, sponsored both by federal agencies and the **National Pollution Prevention Roundtable**. They are:
 - United States
 - **National Environmental Performance Track**, sponsored by the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** (ongoing recognition program)
 - **National Pollution Prevention Awards**, sponsored by the **National Pollution Prevention Roundtable**
 - **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Pollution Prevention Environmental Excellence Awards**
 - **U.S. Department of Energy Pollution Prevention Awards**
 - **White House Closing the Circle Awards** (for federal agencies)
 - Canada
 - **CCME Pollution Prevention Awards**, sponsored by the Canadian Council of Ministries of the Environment.

E-mail library@wmrc.uiuc.edu with comments, questions, or corrections.

State-By-State Summary of Programs

Alabama

Name: Awards in Pollution Prevention

Started: 2000?

Sponsored by: Alabama Department of Environmental Management P2 Unit

WWW: <http://www.adem.state.al.us/Education%20Div/P2%20Program/P2Winners.htm>

Notes: They don't seem to have presented awards in 2003 or 2004. There is a 2005 application on the web site.

Alaska

None.

Arizona

AZ DEQ discontinued the Arizona Pollution Prevention Leadership Enhancement Awards. Arizona Clean & Beautiful (the Arizona affiliate of Keep America Beautiful) added a pollution prevention category to their Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards program in 1998.

Arkansas

None. They promote EPA's National Environmental Performance Track program to Arkansas businesses (<http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/poa/performance-track.htm>). Case studies from Arkansas companies participating in the National Performance Track are at http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/techsvs/prog_dev.htm.

California

Name: Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards

Started: 1993

Sponsored by: California Environmental Protection Agency and Governor's Office (Governor's Office issues the press release announcing the winners)

WWW: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Awards/GEELA/default.htm>

Notes: Award categories include Children's Environmental Education, Ecosystem and Watershed Stewardship, Sustainable Practices or Facilities, Environmental and Economic Partnerships, Comprehensive Land Use Planning, Technological and Market Innovation, and Sustainable Communities.

Colorado

Name: Pollution Prevention Champions

Started: 1997

Sponsored by: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Pollution Prevention Program and the Colorado Environmental Partnership

WWW: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/el/documents/general/awrdfrm2.pdf> (links to 2005 application), <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/el/documents/general/pastawrd.pdf> (links to winners 1997-2004), http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/el/p2_program/chmpion5.pdf (links to 2005 winners).

Notes: State also has an environmental leadership program (<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/el/elp/elphom.asp>), which is tiered like EPA's National Performance Track.

Connecticut

Name: GreenCircle Awards Program

Started: 1998

Sponsored by: Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

WWW: <http://www.dep.state.ct.us/pao/grncrc/greencircle.htm>

Notes: Does not appear to be competitive. There is an application process but anyone who implements one of the suggested projects receives an award. Project categories include energy conservation, transportation, pollution prevention & recycling, and promotion of natural resource conservation or environmental awareness. Descriptions of winning projects are at <http://www.dep.state.ct.us/pao/grncrc/awardrecip.htm>.

Delaware

No pollution prevention awards, but they do have a Young Environmentalist of the Year award. See <http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/DNREC2000/admin/education/youngenvironmentalist.htm> for information about the 2005 program and <http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/DNREC2000/Admin/Press/Story1.asp?offset=50&PRID=1733> for information about the 2005 winner.

Florida

No specific P2 awards program. Awards programs appear to be administered by various offices within the Department of Environmental Protection and other state agencies. Programs include:

Domestic Wastewater Program Excellence Awards, which are given to wastewater treatment plants and POTWs and include P2 (see <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wastewater/dom/domaward.htm>)

Commissioner's Agricultural-Environmental Awards, given through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (see <http://www.florida-agriculture.com/agenvironmental/index.htm>)

Jiminy Cricket's Environmental Challenge, given through the Department of Environmental Protection and co-sponsored by the Walt Disney World Company (http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/ed/environmentality_challenge/04/default.htm). Open to fifth grade classes. For information about the 2005 award winners, see http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/news/2005/04/0428_02.htm.

Georgia

Name: P2AD Partnership Program

Started: 1997

Sponsored by: Georgia Department of Natural Resources Pollution Prevention Assistance Division

WWW: http://www.p2ad.org/Assets/Documents/pp_home.html

Notes: This program is similar to the National Performance Track. Used to have the Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards, but these are no longer listed on the website as of October 2005.

Hawaii

No awards program. The state does have the Hawaii Green Business Program, a partnership between the Departments of Health; and Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (see <http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/ert/greenbusiness/>). It's performance track type program. Includes water conservation, energy efficiency, and pollution prevention.

Idaho

Name: Idaho GemStars

Started: 1999

Sponsored by: Governor's Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee

WWW: <http://www.idahogemstars.org/>

Notes: Membership program with three tiers of participation. No annual awards.

Illinois

Name: Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards

Started: 1987

Sponsored by: Illinois Waste Management and Research Center

WWW: http://www.wmrc.uiuc.edu/main_sections/info_services/govs_awards.cfm

Notes: Oldest continuing program in the U.S.

Indiana

Name: Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence

Started: 1994

Sponsored by: The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), in cooperation with the Governor's Office, Lieutenant Governor's Office of Energy Policy, the Indiana Department of Administration, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources

WWW: <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta/govawards/>

Notes: Also sponsors the Indiana CLEAN Community Challenge program, which is a voluntary recognition program for local governments within the state. The program began in 2004 and is administered by IDEM in partnership with several other state agencies. The CLEAN Community Challenge asks local governments to implement environmental management systems, called Quality of Life Plans, with support from local residents and businesses. More information can be found at <http://www.in.gov/idem/oppta/clean/>.

Iowa

Name: Governor's Iowa Environmental Excellence Awards

Started: 2000?

Sponsored by: Coordinated by the Governor's Office, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, the Iowa Department of Economic Development, the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Department of Public Health, and the Iowa Waste Reduction Center.

WWW: <http://www.iowadnr.com/other/ee/index.html>

Notes: Includes energy efficiency, pollution prevention, technological innovation, natural resources protection and conservation, and environmental education.

Kansas

Name: Kansas Pollution Prevention Awards and Recognition Program

Started: 1994

Sponsored by: Kansas Department of Health and Environment

WWW: http://www.kdheks.gov/sbcs/p2_pollution_prevention_awards.html

Kentucky

Name: Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards

Started: 1997?

Sponsored by: Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet

WWW: http://www.environment.ky.gov/homepage_repository/2003+and+2002+EEA+winners.htm

Notes: It's unclear whether awards have been presented since 2003.

Louisiana

Name: Governor's Environmental Leadership Awards

Started: 1997?

Sponsored by: Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Governor hosts the program.

WWW: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/assistance/elp/index.htm>

Notes: Companies must be members of the Louisiana Environmental Leadership P2 Program.

Maine

Name: Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence

Started: 1994

Sponsored by: Maine Department of Environmental Protection

WWW: <http://www.state.me.us/dep/oia/govaward.htm>

Notes: Includes awards for STEP-UP (performance track program), environmental stewardship, public health & the environment, educational outreach, greenhouse gas reduction, and pollution prevention.

Maryland

Name: Tawes Award for a Clean Environment

Started: 1977

Sponsored by: Maryland Department of Environment and Maryland Petroleum Council

WWW: http://www.mde.state.md.us/citizensinfocenter/citizen_participation/tawes_awards2003.asp

Notes: The Tawes Award is an environmental recognition program sponsored by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Petroleum Council (MPC) in the name of late Maryland Governor J. Millard Tawes, who was also the state's first secretary of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The award is open to any individual, civic, community, or non-profit entity that has demonstrated outstanding efforts to enhance Maryland's environment over a period of time or with a single project. More of an environmental stewardship award than a pollution prevention award.

Massachusetts

Name: Governor's Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Toxics Use Reduction

Started: 1994

Sponsored by: Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute

WWW: <http://www.turi.org/turadata/Success/GovernorsAwards.html>

Notes: Established in 1994 to recognize and award outstanding achievement in Toxics Use Reduction. Awards go to industrial or commercial businesses, public or private institutions, nonprofit organizations, community groups or other public and private enterprises or individuals who have demonstrated leadership and outstanding results in toxics use reduction. Winners are recognized for their role in reducing at the source the use, generation or release of toxic substances. Not clear if this is still an active program. Last winners listed are from 1998.

Michigan

Name: Clean Corporate Citizen

Started: 1996

Sponsored by: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

WWW: http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307_3666_4134-9922--,00.html

Notes: Established by statute. Isn't an awards program per se. Rather, companies participate on an ongoing basis and receive public recognition of their participation. DEQ also has an award for DEQ staff to encourage regulatory integration of P2.

Minnesota

Name: The Governor's Awards for Excellence in Waste and Pollution Prevention

Started: 1991

Sponsored by: Governor's Office (by statute (1990 Minnesota Toxic Pollution Prevention Act) the award comes from here) and the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

WWW: <http://www.moea.state.mn.us/p2/govaward.cfm>

Mississippi

None

Missouri

Name: Governor's Environmental Excellence and Pollution Prevention Awards

Started: 2000?

Sponsored by: Missouri Chamber of Commerce (applications go here), Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and Choose Environmental Excellence

WWW: <http://www.mochamber.org/moccdocs/Environmental/Pollutionprevention.pdf>

Notes: Has a technology innovation category. Other categories include statewide P2, management systems, market development, outreach and education, technical assistance, and land use. Not clear if this is still an active program. Last application available is for the 2004 awards.

Montana

Name: EcoStar Awards

Started: 1996

Sponsored by: Montana Pollution Prevention Program

WWW: <http://www.montana.edu/wwwated/ecostar.shtml>

Notes: A P2 certification/recognition program. Includes energy efficiency and pollution prevention.

Nebraska

None

Nevada

None

New Hampshire

Name: Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention

Started: 1993

Sponsored by: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services P2 Program

WWW: <http://www.des.state.nh.us/nhppp/GovAward/>

Notes: Includes a technology category. Descriptions of eligible projects include energy efficiency and recycling.

New Jersey

Name: New Jersey Environmental Excellence Awards

Started: 1999

Sponsored by: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities

WWW: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/eeawards/index.html>

Notes: Categories include clean air, clean water, environmental education, environmental leadership, environmental stewardship, health ecosystems, innovative technology, land conservation, and safe & healthy communities.

New Mexico

Name: Green Zia Environmental Excellence Program

Started: 1999?

Sponsored by: New Mexico Environmental Alliance

WWW: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/Green_Zia_website/index.html

Notes: Participants in the program are eligible for awards from the governor each year.

New York

Name: New York State Environmental Excellence Awards

Started: 2004

Sponsored by: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

WWW: <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/ppu/eea/index.html>

Notes: Started in 1994 as the New York State Governor's Awards for Pollution Prevention (see <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/ppu/p2gov.html>). In 2004, incorporated into the Environmental Excellence Awards. Looks for projects that demonstrate innovation, sustainability, and partnership. Includes projects that address pollution prevention, waste reduction and recycling, stormwater management, watershed planning, energy efficiency, brownfield redevelopment, habitat protection and restoration, land conservation, and other environmental protection initiatives.

North Carolina

Name: North Carolina Environmental Stewardship Initiative

Started: 2000?

Sponsored by: North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Division of P2 and Environmental Assistance

WWW: <http://www.p2pays.org/esi/>

Notes: A performance based program similar to EPA's National Performance Track. North Carolina's Governor's Awards for Excellence in Waste Reduction were awarded from 1981-1999. See <http://www.p2pays.org/main/govawards.asp> for more information.

North Dakota

None

Ohio

Name: Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards

Started: 1993-1999 (don't appear to be any awarded since then)

Sponsored by: Ohio EPA Office of P2?

WWW: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/opp/gov.html> (Has case studies and factsheets but no info about awards program)

Name: Governor's Award for Excellence in Energy

Started: 1994

Sponsored by: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Energy Efficiency

WWW: <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oe/Governor'sAward.htm>; Summaries of previous award recipients at <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oe/GovAwardPastParticipants.htm> and <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cms/uploadedfiles/CDD/OEE/GAXN%2004%20WINNERS%20TEMPLATE%20MASTER%20DOC.pdf> (2004).

Notes: Honors individuals, businesses, industries and organizations that have improved Ohio's economic competitiveness and its environment through the effective, efficient, and innovative use of energy.

Oklahoma

Name: Environmental Performance and Recognition Program

Started: ?

Sponsored by: Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Customer Service Division Pollution Prevention Program

WWW: <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/CSDnew/EPRP/whatis.htm>

Notes: Performance track program based on the Malcolm Baldrige Business Performance Excellence Criteria and the Oklahoma Quality Award Foundation (<http://www.oklahomquality.com/>) program. Used to have Excellence in Pollution Prevention Awards and Recognition (<http://www.deq.state.ok.us/CSDnew/P2/2002Award.PDF>), which appears to have ceased in 2002.

Oregon

No P2 awards. However, they do give Waste Reduction Awareness Program Awards to schools and individuals to encourage recycling, in partnership with the Association of Oregon Recyclers (see <http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/solwaste/wrap/wrap.html>). Also has a page of links to recognition programs within Oregon as well as nationally (<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/solwaste/cwrc/orrec1.html>). Most of these deal with recycling.

Pennsylvania

Name: Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence (1994-1995 -- Governor's Waste Minimizations Awards)

Started: 1996

Sponsored by: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Office of Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance (applications go here but the governor's office gets top billing on the application).

WWW: Applications located on the Pennsylvania DEP web site. Search for "awards" in the search box on the main page to locate the current year's application. The 2001 award winners are at <http://www.greenworks.tv/govawards2001/index.asp>. For a list of winners, see <http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/pollprev/gov-awards-redesign/default.htm>. Latest awards appear to be from 2004.

Notes: In 2001, started Governor's Award for Sustainability. Award categories include resource protection, land use, energy efficiency, and education & outreach. Pennsylvania DEP also awards the Phoenix Awards for Brownfields Redevelopment.

Rhode Island

None

South Carolina

Name: Governor's Pollution Prevention Award

Started: 1991

Sponsored by: The Technical Advisory Committee for the Hazardous Waste Management Research Fund (within the University of South Carolina Institute for Public Service and Policy Research) reviews entries, select finalists and recommends winners to the Office of the Governor.

Name: South Carolina Environmental Excellence Program (SCEEP)

Started: 1998

Sponsored by: SCEEP Advisory Committee made up of SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, Sierra Club, Woman League of Voters, Trade Associations, Chamber of Commerce and academia; oversight is with the University of South Carolina Institute for Public Service and Policy Research.

WWW: <http://www.iopa.sc.edu>

Notes: Membership is based on a 2 year renewal cycle.

South Dakota

None

Tennessee

Name: Environmental Conservation and Stewardship Awards (part of a larger program that has specific awards for Industrial Pollution Prevention and Governor's Award for Excellence in Hazardous Waste Management)

Started: 1997?

Sponsored by: Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

WWW: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/awards/02awds/criteria.htm>

Texas

Name: Texas Environmental Excellence Awards

Started: 1993

Sponsored by: Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission. Presented on behalf of the Governor of Texas and the TNRCC Commissioners.

WWW: <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/oppr/txawd/txawd.html>

Utah

Name: Environmentalist of the Year

Started:

Sponsored by: Environmental Research and Education Foundation

WWW: <http://www.erefndn.org/galanominationleadshs.htm>

Notes: \$50,000 cash award. Nominations are sought internationally. Both individuals and corporations are eligible.

Vermont

Name: Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence in Pollution Prevention

Started: 1993

Sponsored by: Vermont Governor's Office (applications go here although the contact person is in the Vermont Agency for Natural Resources, Environmental Assistance Division)

WWW: <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ead/eadhome/govaward.htm>

Virginia

Name: Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards for Manufacturers

Started: 1995

Sponsored by: Supported by Virginia's Governor, Secretary of Natural Resources, and Department of Environmental Quality. Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) has facilitated the process and hosted presentation of the awards at the VMA Annual Meeting each fall. VMA's Environmental Outreach Group underwrites the costs of the program.

WWW: <http://www.vmaoutreach.com/projects/project3.cfm>

Washington

Name: Governor's Awards for Pollution Prevention and Sustainable Practice

Started: 1992

Sponsored by: Washington State Department of Ecology

WWW: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/sustainability/GovAward/gov_awards.htm

West Virginia

None

Wisconsin

Wisconsin has several awards, all of which relate to P2. All are on the web at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cea/awards/index.htm>.

Name: Brogan Award

Description: Awarded to an outstanding organization, company or municipality that has aggressively and effectively managed activities to minimize or eliminate environmental pollution. The Department of Natural Resources presents this award every May at the Natural Resources Board meeting. Funding from the proceeds of a trust fund by former Natural Resources Board member John Brogan.

Name: Governor's Award for Excellence in Environmental Performance

Description: Recognizes achievements in environmental performance in Wisconsin, based on the following criteria Reduction of the degree and amount of waste toxicity, emissions and other environmental performance; Economic performance as measured by profits generated, costs reduced and payback periods; Transferability of the processes or techniques to similar applications for use by other industries, organizations or institutions; Commitment, by the applicant, to help other industries, organizations or institutions by sharing information and expertise. Sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the Federation of Environmental Technologists (<http://www.fetinc.org/Governor's%20Award.htm>). Appears to be administered by the Federation of Environmental Technologists and is presented at their annual Wisconsin meeting.

Name: Prevention/Environment/Prosperity Award

Description: The Prevention, Environment, and Prosperity (P/E/P) Award rewards successful businesses for innovative pollution prevention methods. Organizations may self-nominate by submitting an abstract of the successful pollution prevention activity. Once the abstract is accepted as demonstrating pollution prevention, the organization will be asked to complete a case study. The case study then becomes the basis for the selection of the P/E/P Award Winner.

Wyoming

None

